

# FAITH UNITED NEWS

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Faith United Church  
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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### C3 (Crafty Christian Chicks)

We are meeting on Thursday, Dec. 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.  
Please join us for fun, food, fellowship and some crafts.

### Brotherhood

We are meeting on Tuesday, Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm at the Ground round. Everyone is invited to join us! Please let George or Ronnie know if you plan to attend.

### Faith Circle

We will be meeting at 7:00 pm on Thursday, Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> at the McCauley's home for our annual Christmas party. The address is 4902 Woodfield Drive. Please bring items for the Jump Program (baby items.)

### OWLS

We will not be meeting in November & December. See you in 2018!

### Hanging of the Greens

We will be setting up for the Hanging of the Greens Service on Saturday Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> at 9:00 am, followed by chili for lunch. Everyone is invited to help us set up, the more people we get to help the quicker we can get done!

### Christmas Eve

We will not be having Sunday School or B.I.G. on Christmas Eve. We will have our normal Sunday morning service at 10:15 am. Our Christmas Eve Evening Service will be at 7:00 pm.

### New Year's Eve

We will not be having Sunday School or B.I.G. on New Year's Eve. We will have our normal Sunday morning service at 10:15 am.

### Poinsettia Sales

Order forms for poinsettia's are in the Lobby. The cost is \$6.00 and must be turned in by Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>.

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### Recharge: A Midweek Music Service

Please join us for Recharge on Wednesday Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.

### "In Context" Chronological Bible Study

We will resume our Bible study in January 2018.

### Women's Fellowship

We will be meeting on Tuesday Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Our Birthday Party for Jesus will be a baby shower for the Noyes Home.

Items may be brought to the event & wrapped here.

Suggested items: diapers, wipes, Enfamil formula, socks & underwear- sizes 0-5T, 12-18 month sleepers.

Refreshments will be served!

### Thank You

Thank you to ALL the workers at the Fall Festival. The food was great, thanks to the shoppers as well. The donations were great, thank you to all who donated and the weather was wonderful as well. This was a big success!

Thanks to all,

Lay Life

### Christmas Day & New Year's Day

The office will be closed on Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

### Church Van

The church is taking bids on the 1994 15 passenger red Dodge van. If you are interested in buying the van, please turn your bids into the church office, Attention: Ronnie McCauley.

## From The Pastor's Desk

### “GIVE THANKS IN ALL CIRCUMSTANCES”

Recently I had Jill Cobb put this bible verse found in 1 Thessalonians 5: 18 up on our church yard sign. It says, *“Give thanks in all circumstances”* the rest of the verse says, *“for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.”* As we were entering our Stewardship campaign for 2018, I wanted us to go into it with a thankful heart no matter what lie ahead. As a church, our Board of Stewards had set the mark at 90% pledged from our congregation in order for us to go forward with our proposed budget for 2018. We had never before achieved anything like that that I know of, so it was a big goal that was set out there. Along with this big goal set in front of us has been the sermon series entitled, “Of Good Courage.” Are we willing to dive into wherever God leads us, with no fear, trusting that He will carry us through to the other side? Can we reach 90%?

So there it was, two big steps of faith that each of us needed to take staring us in the face. Would we be willing to take those steps of faith? First off, we had to understand that no matter what happened, we were to be thankful. There is always a reason to be thankful. And notice the verse doesn't say to be thankful *for* all things, but to be thankful *in* all things. Even if we don't reach our goal, we are to be thankful! Even if we continue to walk forward with some doubts and fear, we need to be thankful! No matter what our circumstances, I believe there is a reason to be thankful. Your situation may never change, but your attitude can change and that will make all the difference in the world.

Terry Fox was a Canadian distance runner who, in 1980, started the Marathon of Hope, a cross-country run to raise money for cancer research. He ran with one prosthetic leg because he had lost it to cancer. His hope was to raise one dollar from each of Canada's 24 million people. He began with little fanfare from St. John's, Newfoundland, in April of that year and ran the equivalent of a full marathon every day. Fox had become a national star by the time he reached Ontario; he made numerous public appearances with businessmen, athletes, and politicians in his efforts to raise money. Almost every day, a television announcer

or radio newscaster would put a microphone in front of Terry and ask him how his run for cancer was going. Often exhausted and losing valuable strength, Terry would say, *“I don't know about tomorrow, but God gave me another day to live and I'm thankful for each day I'm alive.”* Eventually, he was forced to end his run outside Thunder Bay when the cancer spread to his lungs. His hopes of overcoming the disease and completing his marathon ended when he died nine months later. Even to the end, he remained thankful for each day, and considered each one God's gift to him. With an attitude of thankfulness, he made the most of a difficult situation.

Our situation wasn't that dire, but there were some who believed we would never reach that goal and would have to go back in and make some cuts. This past Sunday we turned in our pledge cards during our commitment service and found out that we have exceeded our goal of 90%. You see when you place your trust in God to provide, God always comes through!

As a church we are excited for the future. We continue to pray each day for God's guidance as we navigate through the trials that the world throws at us each day. My prayer for our church is that we will give thanks in all things...not just on Thanksgiving, but every day that God gifts us. Because with an attitude of thankfulness, we can do all things through Christ who gives us strength!

Happy Thanksgiving to you and your family! Be God's!

Pastor Jim

**Calendar of Events**

- Dec. 2<sup>nd</sup> - Set up for Hanging of the Greens/Lunch
- Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> - Hanging of the Greens 10:15 am
- Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> - Visitation Committee 11:15 am
- Dec. 5<sup>th</sup> - Women’s Fellowship 7:00 pm
- Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> - White Elephant Christmas Party 7:00 pm
- Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> - Communion Sunday 10:15 am
- Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> - Food Kitchen Team #2 5:00 pm
- Nov. 10<sup>th</sup> - Craft & Bake Sale 5:00-7:00 pm
- Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> - Faith Circle @ The McCauley’s 7:00 pm
- Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> - Card Sunday 10:15 am
- Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> - Brotherhood @ the Ground Round 6:00 pm
- Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> - Leader’s Night 7:00 pm
- Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> - Church Service, no Sunday School 10:15 am
- Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Eve Service 7:00 pm
- Dec. 25<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Day! (Offices Closed)
- Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> - **Recharge 6:30 pm**
- Dec. 28<sup>th</sup> - C3 Meeting 7:00 pm
- Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> - New Year’s Eve No Sunday School

**Communion Assistants**

- Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> - Teresa Kidwell and Amy Bryson

**Acolytes**

- Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> - Brodie DeSchepper & Josh Oswald
- Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> - Montana Frakes & Jordan Hill
- Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> - Josh Oswald & Rawlins Brant
- Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> - Rawlins Brant & Brodie DeSchepper
- Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> - Josh Oswald & Montana Frakes

**Van Drivers**

- Dec. 3<sup>rd</sup> - Corey
- Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> - Brent
- Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> - Roy
- Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> - Corey
- Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> - Brent

Report	Current Fund	Building Fund
Oct. 29 <sup>th</sup> -	\$1,206.00	\$150.00
Nov. 5 <sup>th</sup> -	\$3,115.75	\$250.00
Nov. 12 <sup>th</sup> -	\$2,310.00	\$55.00
Nov. 19 <sup>th</sup> -	\$3,474.00	\$186.00
Totals:	<b>\$10,105.75</b>	<b>\$641.00</b>

**\$11,860.00** needed each month to meet current expenses.

Attendance	Service	Sunday School
Oct. 29 <sup>th</sup> -	58	19
Nov. 5 <sup>th</sup> -	62	23
Nov. 12 <sup>th</sup> -	71	21
Nov. 19 <sup>th</sup> -	75	25

**ENCOURAGING VERSE FOR THE MONTH!**

*“And this is the confidence that we have toward him, that if we ask anything according to his will he hears us.”*

**1 John 5:14**

**In Our Thoughts & Prayers**

**Praises:** God’s continued presence in the World & never absent; friendships formed through our relation to God and his Son, Jesus Christ; Richard sharp & mina McCall’s continued improvements following surgeries; Courtney Hill’s new job; Aaron king was among the top in his Basic Training class which earned him some time home with family before continuing his training; Rebecca Dilley joining the church; reaching 90% of our 2018 Goals budget during Pledge Card Sunday.

**Cancer Patients:** 13 year old Riley Whittington-chronic cancer; Paul Bridenstine (chronic leukemia); Andrew (5yr. old son of Central High teacher Mr. Hart)- inoperable brain tumor; Roy Nolan’s cousin, Christie Amos (40) –breast cancer; Dale Arn’s brother, David- cancer has returned; Garren’s Aunt Lupe- Pancreatic cancer; Sonya & Tony Tannheimer – (she- breast cancer) (he- recent diagnosis-stage 4 Melanoma)- (Johnson’s.)

**Other:** Continued prays for Glenn Spitzer – family unity & health & friends & his son, Brett, is being deployed for a year in Kuwait; Donita Sunderland- chronic health issues; Heidi DeSchepper- chronic health issues; Donna brooks-chronic health issues; Tom Vanlone- home with home health; Coleman Collins (Linda Trapp’s great-nephew)- 12 yr. old- prayers for serious heart problems; All suffering from severe depression; The Catron Family; Elizabeth Schoenlaub; Jackie Ritter- on Hospice; Sharon Catron in Texas- her mom had a stroke; individual & family- blood transfusions; Brothers of Joanie Shaw – Ronny with diabetes & Jim with congestive heart failure; Andrew Poweres (a K-State grad) – spending 3 years teaching in India (2020); Joyce Delt- Cancer; Ermil Gottswiller- pneumonia; Gordon Wilds (Leonard McCall’s brother-in-law) – to have biopsy on Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> for elevated PSA.

**Traveling Mercies:** Ashley West in England; all those traveling for the holidays (students, family members, etc.)

**Sympathy:** The family and friends of Jeffrey A. Memarian in his passing.

**Finally:** all our people & programs; Recharge Worship Service & Portions Worship series; attitudes- may we live as Jesus told us- “love one another as I have loved you”; our music director, Steve Haskey; our youth Director, Alex King; Our Pastor Jim Oswald and their families; be **of good Courage!** – No opportunity is too small!